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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO WESTERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff, CASE NO. 3:22-CR-274

vs. Judge James R. Knepp II

ANTHONY THEODOROU, D-2, Magistrate Judge Darrell A. Clay

Defendant. :

AFFIDAVIT OF BRIAN LESLIE

I, Brian Leslie, depose and state as follows:

- 1. I am a nationally recognized expert in coercive interrogation and interview techniques. I have over 14 years of previous law enforcement experience, I have written several books/articles on issues relevant to interrogation techniques, and I have been recognized (and called) as an expert in numerous civilian and military courts.
- 2. I have extensive experience reviewing interrogations and confessions to determine reliability based on improper and/or coercive interrogation techniques (including the Reid Technique and/or similar interrogation tactics).
- 3. I was contacted and hired to review the interrogation of Anthony Theodorou in connection with this case.
- 4. I reviewed the video interviews of Mr. Theodorou's interrogation, along with other available relevant information.
- 5. Based on my review, I created a detailed Forensic Report outlining the various problems and flaws with the police interrogation techniques employed during the interview.
- 6. The interrogation techniques used on Mr. Van Pernis are consistent with the Reid Technique. This technique is known to produce involuntary, false, incomplete, and unreliable statements from suspects.
- 7. It is my expert opinion that there were a significant number of coercive techniques used throughout the interview/interrogation (such as minimizations and maximizations) that in my opinion resulted in confession compliance.

- 8. These types of coercive techniques can be responsible for confusing a suspect's own words as well as the suspect making inculpatory statements or adapting a potential narrative proposed by the interviewer. It is my expert opinion this was the case here (see details of report).
- 9. In my experience and expertise, these coercive techniques significantly impact the voluntariness of the statements/confession resulting from the interrogation.
- 10. The details of my opinions are set forth in my report.
- 11. All opinions herein are rendered to a reasonable degree of certainty.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

Brian Leslie.

Sworn before me and subscribed in my presence this <u>Jot</u> day of <u>Joke</u> 2023.

NOTARY PUBLIC

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